

Message Text

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72

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 OFA-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 INR-07 IO-10 L-03 NSF-01

NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-03 USIA-06 OES-03 SS-15 SP-02 /084 W

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R 302050Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6586

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, CA

SUBJECT: GARRISON DIVERSION - ALLEGED U.S. POSITION REVEALED

1. TORONTO GLOBE & MAIL MAY 29 PUBLISHED ARTICLE ENTITLED "FORCEFUL POSITION BY MANITOBA ON GARRISON DIVERSION IS SOUGHT." ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, DATED WINNIPEG, THE PRAIRIE ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENCE LEAGUE INC. URGED THE MANITOBA GOVERNMENT TO TAKE A STRONG POSITION TO HAVE FURTHER CONSTRUCTION HALTED ON THE GARRISON DIVERSION.

2. THE LEAGUE BASED ITS POSITION ON ALLEGED U.S. DOCUMENTS WHICH INDICATE PREPARATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE BELVA CANAL COULD BE COMPLETED AS EARLY AS JUNE 1976. THE ARTICLE REPORTS THAT THE LEAGUE RELEASED APRIL 15 CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM FROM THE U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION TO THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT STATING THAT STUDIES OF ALTERNATIVES TO THE VELVA CANAL CAN BE COMPLETED BY 1976. THE MEMO ALSO ALLEGEDLY STATES THAT THESE STUDIES "WOULD BE BELOW FEASIBILITY GRADE BUT SUFFICIENT TO PROVIDE A CLOSER LOOK AT THE VIABILITY OF THE ALTERNATIVES IN SUFFICIENT TIME TO PROPERLY CONSIDER THE REQUEST FOR FUNDING..."

3. ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, THE LEAGUE ALSO ACCUSED
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BUREAU OF "SECRECY AND DECEIT" SINCE THE MEMORANDUM

PURPORTEDLY SUGGESTS RESULTS OF THE INFORMAL STUDIES
SHOULD NOT BE RELEASED TO LOCAL INTERESTS NOR THE
CANADIANS SINCE TO DO SO WOULD DAMAGE THE U.S.
POSITION.

4. COMMENT: EXTAFF OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED
UNHAPPINESS OVER THIS LEAK TO THE PRESS SINCE CANADA
HAS PREFERRED TO DEAL WITH THE MATTER ON A GOVERNMENT
TO GOVERNMENT BASIS. THEY ALSO SAID THAT THEY UNDER-
STOOD THAT THE PRAIRIE ENVIRONMENTAL LEAGUE HAS A COPY
OF THE U.S. DRAFT REFERENCE TO THE IJC ON THE GARRISON
DIVERSION AND THAT THE LEAGUE INTENDS TO DISTRIBUTE
IT TO THE PRESS.
PORTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CONSTRUCTION, CANALS, GARRISON DIVERSION PROJECT, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, INTERNATIONAL RIVERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975OTTAWA02023
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750190-0666
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: SENV, CA, US, TORONTO GLOBE & MAIL
To: STATE
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